

# Business MATTERS

MAY  
2024

BAND FESTIVAL  
EDITION

A Publication of the Mason City Chamber of Commerce

## LET THE FUN BEGIN

Dust off those leg warmers and break out the hairspray. It's time for the 85th North Iowa Band Festival! See more on page 8





## 2024 TRAVEL GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE



We are thrilled to announce the arrival of the [2024 Mason City Travel Guide!](#) Whether you're a local looking for new adventures or a visitor eager to discover our vibrant city, this guide has something for everyone. From historic landmarks to culinary delights, cultural experiences to outdoor adventures, you'll find everything you need to plan your perfect itinerary.

Guides are available at the Mason City Visitor Center, located at 2021 4th Street SW, as well as numerous locations throughout the community and the Visitor Information kiosk in Central Park.

Missing your family and friends? Invite them to come and visit. Contact us at 641.422.1663 or [vmc@VisitMasonCityIowa.com](mailto:vmc@VisitMasonCityIowa.com) to request a visitor packet sent to them on your behalf.

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the advertisers whose support made this year's guide possible. Their commitment to showcasing the best of Mason City ensures that visitors and residents alike have access to invaluable resources for discovering our community.

- Country Inn & Suites
- Diamond Jo Casino
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- Holiday Inn Express
- Mason City Municipal Airport
- Moorman Clothiers
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- Spring Lake Townhomes & Suites
- Three Bells Books
- Wayne's Ski & Cycle

As you flip through the pages of the 2024 Mason City Travel Guide, take a moment to appreciate the businesses and organizations that have contributed to its creation. Their dedication not only enhances the guide's quality but also strengthens our community as a whole.

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## North Iowa Regional Commerce Center

9 N Federal Ave  
Mason City, IA 50401

641-423-5724  
www.masoncityia.com

**The mission of the Chamber of Commerce is to promote progressive community and economic development to benefit Chamber members and the North Iowa region.**



## Chamber Leadership

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## From the President

Can you feel the excitement in the air? We are just weeks away from my favorite time of the year – the **North Iowa Band Festival**. I know I'm not alone in my passion for this event, but I also know our beloved festival was due for some fresh ideas and new energy. We spent time brainstorming and dreaming, and I am confident you will notice and enjoy the changes.

First, we have MERCH! Our Marketing Associate, Keagan Barkema, created some exciting designs to correspond with our 80s theme. All of the items are now available in our online store, and the most popular versions and colors will be for sale during the festival.

Next, we want to make sure you have tons of options for great food and refreshments during the festival. We are excited to have a variety of food trucks setting up in the park Friday and Saturday. We are also hosting a "Totally Tubular Downtown Crawl" on Thursday evening; where you will find 80s themed activities, drink specials, and more at our participating locations (just don't forget to wear your button!). And to top it all off, we have worked hard to get all of the proper permissions to allow you to purchase a beer at a downtown establishment and enjoy it while listening to music in Central Park.

Finally, you'll notice we are turning things around this year (literally!) when it comes to our entertainment. The stage will be set up on the north end of Federal Avenue, creating an entertainment corridor between the Principal Pavilion and the Main Stage. On Saturday, visitors will enjoy a "River City Mixtape" of performances from local bands all afternoon and evening. It's our way of celebrating the rich musical heritage of North Iowa!

Whether you watch the parade, dance in front of the Main Stage, or ride the Ferris wheel, I hope you will make **Band Festival** part of your Memorial Day Weekend plans. I promise, it will be a festival to remember!



**Colleen Frein**  
President & CEO

## Vietnam Global Familiarization Trip



The Chamber views its **Global Familiarization Trips** as a way to assist in North Iowa's transition to a global economy. For the most part, selected destinations are important U.S. trading partners that people may not feel comfortable traveling to on their own. The goal of the tours is to help travelers understand the culture, customs, and history of other countries as one step toward bringing the people of the world closer together. Vietnam is next on the list of destinations. Chamber members and friends of the Chamber have the opportunity to discover the historic landmarks, vibrant cities, and local delicacies of Southeast Asia October 24-November 4, 2024!

### Explore Amazing Vietnam

October 24-November 4, 2024

Saigon | Cu Chi | Mekong Delta | Hoian | Hue | Hanoi | Halong Bay

Trip cost: \$3,449 per person (double occupancy) | Single supplement: \$699

Highlights Include: Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City), Cu Chi Tunnels, the Mekong Delta, Hoian, a food tour in Hue, Hanoi, a cruise in Halong Bay, a traditional Vietnemes Water Puppet Show, an optional visit to the Golden Bridge, and more!

Contact Allyson at the Chamber ([akrull@masoncityia.com](mailto:akrull@masoncityia.com)) for more information or scan the QR code to register.





# Chamber Golf Outing 2024

The Chamber's annual **Golf Outing** is scheduled for Thursday, June 13 at Highland Park Golf Course in Mason City. An alternate date has been set for the following Thursday, June 20 in the event of rain. Register soon, as this four-person best shot tournament is filling up quickly!

Registration for a team of four includes two carts, four green fees, and eight meals (lunch and dinner for each teammate). Don't have a team put together? Call the Chamber to be put on a list of individuals waiting to be assigned a team.



Sponsorship opportunities and door prize donations can be arranged by calling the Chamber at 641.423.5724. To register, visit the Chamber website at [www.masoncityia.com](http://www.masoncityia.com).

Event Sponsor

# College Connections Registrations



The Chamber is looking for college interns in the North Iowa area! Businesses are invited to enroll summer interns in **College Connections**, a program designed to connect young workers to the community and to each other. Each \$100 sponsor of this program may register up to 5 interns in the program. Non-sponsor member businesses can enroll their interns for \$25 per participant.

**College Connections** provides a series of social and educational activities each Thursday June 6-August 1, 2024. Chamber members serve as speakers on a variety of topics relevant to college students and new graduates including networking, personality styles, making the most of an internship, resumes, and more! In addition to a few scheduled social activities, a list of popular area recreational activities is provided for participants to pursue outside of the program's regular meeting times.

To register an intern for the program, please contact Allyson at the Chamber ([akrull@masoncityia.com](mailto:akrull@masoncityia.com) | 641.423.5724)

Thank you to the 2024 **College Connections** sponsors!





Empowering our community's growth, Main Street Mason City is dedicated to fostering vibrant local businesses, enriching cultural experiences, and creating a welcoming atmosphere for all. Together, we strive to revitalize our historic district, nurture a thriving economy, and celebrate the essence of Mason City's unique heritage.

MAY 2024

# A Night of Recognition and Gratitude



Main Street Mason City recently held its FY23 Annual Meeting, marking not only a reflection on the past year's achievements but also commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Main Street Mason City program. The event was a celebration of community spirit, dedication, and the remarkable journey that has shaped downtown Mason City into the vibrant hub it is today.



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who joined us for this special occasion and to our downtown partners who generously provided the food and beverages for the evening: Three on the Tree Coffee & Cafe, Boards & Bars, The Corner - Pizza and Alehouse, Fat Hill Brewing, and Simply Nourished. Your support and collaboration are essential to our shared success.



At the heart of Main Street Mason City's mission are the volunteers whose passion and commitment drive our initiatives forward. This year, we are thrilled to honor Jessica Sears as our Volunteer of the Year. Jessica's enthusiasm and willingness to lend a helping hand have truly made a difference in our community. Congratulations, Jessica!



Innovation lies at the core of our efforts, and it is with great pleasure that we present the Innovative Business of the Year award to Bare Sugar Spa & Salon. Their visionary leadership, transformative strategies, and collaborative spirit have set a new standard for excellence within the Main Street District.



We also want to extend our appreciation to Wayne's Ski and Cycle, recipient of the Friend of Main Street award, for their steadfast support of our organization. Their partnership demonstrates the powerful impact that collaboration beyond the district can have on our collective goals.

The Spirit of Main Street award recognizes those who embody the essence of our community, and this year, we commend the team at Fat Hill Brewing for their exceptional contribution to showcasing downtown Mason City as a vibrant and thriving destination. Thank you for your dedication and enthusiasm!

Finally, the Main Street Impact Award honors businesses within the district that actively foster community vitality, economic growth, and local engagement. We congratulate The Corner - Pizza and Alehouse for their outstanding efforts in enriching the fabric of our community and enhancing the downtown experience for all.

As we look ahead to the future, let us continue to build upon the foundation of collaboration, innovation, and community spirit that defines Main Street Mason City. Together, we can create an even brighter tomorrow for our beloved downtown district. Thank you for your unwavering support and dedication. Here's to the next 20 years of success and prosperity!

**Interested in getting involved?** Main Street Mason City Offers a number of ways to get involved in our downtown. If you would like to assist with any of our committees, we'd love to have you. Contact Main Street Mason City at [director@mainstreetmasoncity.com](mailto:director@mainstreetmasoncity.com) for more information.



# Leadership North Iowa Graduates

**Leadership North Iowa** wrapped up their community impact project for 2024, delivering nearly 40 large totes of hygiene items to students in need at Mason City Schools. An overwhelming amount of additional financial contributions will also allow the middle school to purchase and install washers and dryers for student use.

John Adams Middle School, Mason City High School, and Mason City Alternative High School will keep the hygiene donations in a "care closet" which will provide a safe and confidential place for students to get what they need. Thanks to the commitment of local businesses and community members, many have pledged to help into the future when needs arise. In partnership with the schools, **LNI** will transition the project to the school's District Social Worker who will facilitate the Care Closet program at the schools.



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**Zane Bauers**  
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**Allison Verstegen**  
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**Mike Yegge**  
Hertz Farm Management



# 85th North Iowa Band Festival

Get ready! It's time to rock and roll into the **85th North Iowa Band Festival!** The **Band Festival** committee has been hard at work planning yet another fun-filled Memorial Day weekend that is sure to knock your leg warmers off! That's right! The theme for this year's festival is "80s Rewind." You can expect lots of bright colors, big hairdos, and classic 80s hits played by a lineup of North Iowa bands. This beloved tradition will take place from May 23-27 in Downtown Mason City.



## Festival Entertainment

In the spirit of celebrating local musicians, the John Adams Middle School Band will kick off the weekend on Thursday night, followed by a performance from the Mason City Municipal Band. Not only that, but for the first time there will be a Totally Tubular Downtown Crawl that will feature 80s-themed activities and drink specials. **Band Festival** Buttons will unlock access to exclusive discounts at participating locations! Thursday will also be the opening night of the carnival that will feature exciting rides, fun games, and delicious fair foods!

On Friday, the talented Mason City High School Orchestra is scheduled at 5PM at the Principal Performing Arts Pavilion. The Mason City High School Jazz Band will play at 6PM on the Main Stage, followed by a performance by Not Quite Brothers at 7:30PM.

Saturday's entertainment begins with The 34th Annual Stu Nevermann Run at 8AM, followed by the BIG parade at 10AM that runs down East State Street from North Penn to the High School. Then, the state champion MCHS Danzers will perform at 1PM at the Principal Pavilion before the Awards Ceremony at 1:30PM. The instrument petting zoo will be held from 2-4PM. At 2PM, local musician Paul Weitzel will be performing on the Main Stage, the first of many local bands to hit the stage at this year's **North Iowa Band Festival!** Shortly after, the Bill Riley Talent Show will commence at the Principal Pavilion at 2:30PM. This show will serve as the area's first competition of the summer, and the winner will advance to the Iowa State Fair in August.







Going into Saturday afternoon/evening, the Main Stage performances will continue with Levi Smith at 3:15PM, Juni West at 4:30PM, The Mercury 3 at 6PM, the Mockingbirds at 7:30PM, and Betty and the Gents closing out the night at 9PM. Meanwhile, the carnival, concessions, and marketplace will be open to the public.



For those wishing for one last ride or one more fair snack, the carnival will continue Sunday and Monday, both opening at 12PM. The marketplace will also be open for its final day on Sunday at 11AM. Also on Sunday, Trinity Lutheran Church will be hosting their Annual Outdoor Worship Service beginning at 9AM.

Learn more about the **North Iowa Band Festival** on our website at [www.nibandfest.com](http://www.nibandfest.com) or scan the QR code provided.



## Festival Merchandise

The **North Iowa Band Festival** is excited to introduce the first ever **Band Festival Online Merch Shop!** This year, the festival is offering a radical selection of items with dozens of options to choose from! With designs ranging from 80s classics to today's top trends, there is something for everyone. Mix and match your favorite designs with a wide variety of colors and styles!



The shop closes on Friday, May 10, so don't wait to order! Orders will be available for pick up at Splash Printing Co. at 205 N Federal Ave in Mason City starting Monday, May 20. Visit [www.splashmulti.com](http://www.splashmulti.com) or scan the QR code and start shopping today!





# Award Honorees

## Grand Marshal - Dennis Higgins & Don Higgins

The Grand Marshal Award recognizes people of local or national prominence who have made a significant contribution to the development, history, or success of the festival. The **North Iowa Band Festival** Committee is pleased to announce Dennis Higgins and Don Higgins as this year's recipients. Together, these brothers have worked many hours in different capacities to fill the air with music at the **North Iowa Band Festival** and many other celebrations in North Iowa. Their efforts were recognized in 2023 when they were inducted into the Iowa Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame. They are also the 2016 recipients of the Klemptauer Award.



Dennis Higgins



Don Higgins

Every year, the **Band Festival** team counts on Dennis and Don to set up the Globe Gazette Muse-Norris Charitable Fund Stage for the headline performers, and they often run the sound system for various bands. Dennis served for many years on the **North Iowa Band Festival** Committee and remembers well the intense planning that went on the year the **Band Festival** (briefly) switched to the fall.

Dennis and Don grew up in Mason City, and remember attending the **North Iowa Band Festival** each year as children. They can recall exactly where they watched each year, but never imagined they would one day lead the parade as honorees.

Even after decades of hard work behind the scenes, Dennis and Don say they enjoy the festival immensely. Dennis said he participates year after year because he enjoys the "connection with other people, being part of the project from the start... and seeing it through to completion." Don was surprised to receive the honor, remarking "we work on this all the time, but never expected to have this recognition."

Thank you to Don and Dennis for their contributions to the Festival, and congratulations to both on being named Grand Marshal!

# Thank You Band Festival Sponsors!

### GRAND MARSHAL:



### FLAG CORPS:

- Casey's • CENT Credit Union
- Holiday Inn Express & Suites-Mason City
- Jane Fischer & Associates LLC
- MercyOne North Iowa Medical Center
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- Pritchard Companies • Rieman Music
- Wealth Progression Group

### DRUM MAJOR:



### BAND MASTER:

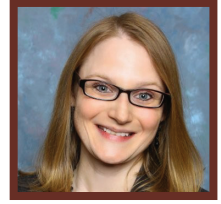






## Award Honorees (Cont.)

### Klempnauer - Lindsey James



**Lindsey James**

The Klempnauer Award was named for Dan Klempnauer, a long-time volunteer and festival supporter, and is intended to honor an unsung hero who volunteers for the festival. This year's honoree is Lindsey James, Executive Director of Visit Mason City and Main Street Mason City.

Lindsey joined the Visit Mason City team in 2010, and was named Executive Director in 2016, and she recently added Director of Main Street Mason City to her title. While supporting Mason City's events is part of her professional role, Lindsey goes above and beyond to support the community, and especially the **North Iowa Band Festival**. Lindsey is a constant cheerleader for the festival's success and brings incredible energy to everything she does in its promotion and execution.

Lindsey said, "being chosen the Klempnauer Award winner is a humbling honor. I've always had a deep love for Mason City's vibrant culture. It's a true privilege to be part of the tradition the award represents."

One of her favorite moments was her son's first time marching in the parade. She recalls enjoying the parade with her grandparents when she was a child; and seeing her son follow in the footsteps of a tradition she cherishes was the perfect blend of nostalgia and pride, enriching her love for the festival even more.

Congratulations, Lindsey!

### Band Master - Alan Greiner



**Alan Greiner**

The Band Master Award originated in 1990 to honor a retiring band master in recognition of outstanding work in the field of music with area youth. This year, the **North Iowa Band Festival** will honor Alan Greiner who recently completed a successful 21 year career teaching instrumental music.

During his tenure with the Iowa High School Music Association (IHSMA), Greiner was instrumental in crafting and promoting the image and philosophy of the association, and he cared deeply about ensuring youth music directors have every tool they need to be successful.

He has also been an influential figure on the national scene as a collaborator with the National Federation of High School Associations. Greiner and other NFHS leadership worked in conjunction with music publishers to help teachers and activity sponsors understand and apply copyright law as it relates to education. He also assisted in the development of a music adjudication training course for NFHS and chaired the NFHS Music Committee for four years.

"When I think of the influence that Alan has had on music education in the state of Iowa, I don't even know where to start in singing his praises," said Kurt Schwarck, president of the IHSMA Executive Committee. "Alan's leadership has created tremendous opportunities for music education across the state. His focus on the value of music education in our schools and creating opportunities for Iowa high school students to grow and become well-rounded individuals is second to none."

Congratulations to Alan Greiner for this outstanding award!

# THE 2024 BAND FESTIVAL



## BILL RILEY'S IOWA STATE FAIR TALENT SEARCH



SATURDAY, MAY 25<sup>TH</sup> 2024 • 2:30PM • CENTRAL PARK • MASON CITY, IA

**Cash Prizes will be Awarded in Two Age Divisions:**

**Sprouts: Ages 2-12 • Seniors: Ages 13-21**



PRIMARY SPONSOR

**First Place: \$100**

**Second Place: \$75**

**Third Place: \$50**

Participation Awards for all Contestants

A QUALIFYING ACT IN EACH DIVISION WILL ADVANCE TO THE IOWA STATE FAIR COMPETITION

### The 2024 Band Festival Entry Form Bill Riley's Iowa State Fair Talent Search

#### General Talent Show Rules

- The show is open to any legal resident of Iowa.
- Acts may not have more than 5 performers, not including an accompanist.
- Each act must not run more than 3 minutes.
- Vocalists are encouraged to have a live accompanist, but single instrument pre-recorded music with no vocal backup may be used.

#### Send Completed Entry Form to:

**Regan Banks**  
P.O. Box 34  
Manly, IA 50456

Questions? Contact Regan at:  
rkbmedic38@yahoo.com or  
641-420-6609

Information about the show and a complete set of rules will be sent to you at a later date.

**Entry deadline is May 21st, 2024 or when show is full.**

Acts will be accepted in the order that completed entry blanks are received.

_____ *Name		
_____ Parent or Guardian Name		_____ Relationship
_____ Birth Date		_____ Age
_____ Address		
_____ City	_____ State	_____ Zip
_____ Phone #		_____ Email
_____ Description of the Act		
_____ *Additional Member of the Act		_____ Age
_____ Name of Song (Music)		
_____ *Additional Member of the Act		_____ Age
_____ *Additional Member of the Act		_____ Age
_____ *Additional Member of the Act		_____ Age

\*Completion of this form implies permission and consent for event sponsors to video or photograph the act for non-commercial use. Please check box to acknowledge you have read this statement and confirm permission(s).





# 85TH NORTH IOWA BAND FESTIVAL

# 80s REWIND

## THURSDAY, MAY 23

- 6-8PM** **Carnival Open**  
*Downtown*
- 6PM** **John Adams Middle School Band**  
*Principal Pavilion*
- 6:45PM** **Mason City Municipal Band**  
*Principal Pavilion*
- 7PM** **Totally Tubular Downtown Crawl**  
*Downtown*

## FRIDAY, MAY 24

- 4PM** **Carnival Opens**  
*Downtown*
- 5-7PM** **Stu Nevermann Run Packet Pickup**  
*Aquatic Center*
- 5PM** **Concessions / Marketplace Open**  
*Central Park*
- 5PM** **Mason City High School Orchestra**  
*Principal Pavilion*
- 6PM** **Mason City High School Jazz Band**  
*Downtown Main Stage*
- 7:30PM** **Not Quite Brothers**  
*Downtown Main Stage*

## FEELING FESTIVE?

Represent the **North Iowa Band Festival** with exclusive buttons and apparel at the all new **Band Festival** merchandise booth in Central Park!



## SCAN HERE

for complete festival details!



## SATURDAY, MAY 25

- 8AM** **34th Annual Stu Nevermann Memorial Run**  
*Aquatic Center*
- 10AM** **85th North Iowa Band Festival Parade**  
*North Penn & East State Street*
- 12PM** **Carnival / Concessions / Marketplace Open**  
*Downtown*
- 1PM** **Mason City Danzers**  
*Principal Pavilion*
- 1:30PM** **Awards Ceremony**  
*Principal Pavilion*
- 2-4PM** **Instrument Petting Zoo**  
*Central Park*
- 2PM** **Paul Weitzel**  
*Downtown Main Stage*
- 3PM** **Bill Riley Talent Show**  
*Principal Pavilion*
- 3:15PM** **Levi Smith**  
*Downtown Main Stage*
- 4:30PM** **Juni West**  
*Downtown Main Stage*
- 6PM** **The Mercury 3**  
*Downtown Main Stage*
- 7:30PM** **The Mockingbirds**  
*Downtown Main Stage*
- 9PM** **Betty and the Gents**  
*Downtown Main Stage*

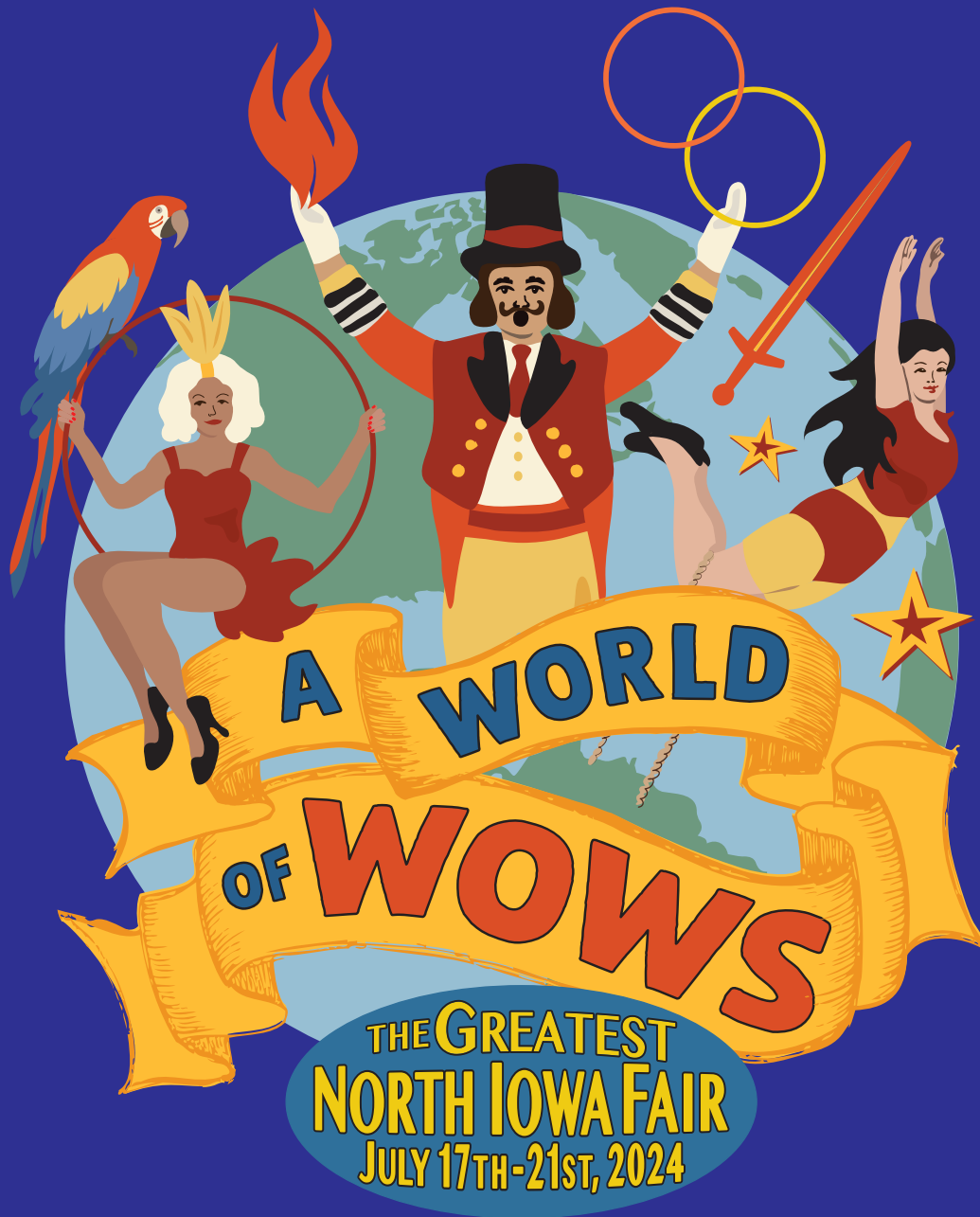
## SUNDAY, MAY 26

- 9AM** **Outdoor Worship Service**  
*Trinity Lutheran Church*
- 11AM** **Marketplace Open**  
*Central Park*
- 12PM** **Carnival / Concessions Open**  
*Downtown*

## MONDAY, MAY 27

- 12PM** **Carnival / Concessions Open**  
*Downtown*

# CALL FOR VENDORS!



Join us as a vendor for the 2024 North Iowa Fair!  
Indoor and outdoor spaces are available

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND APPLICATION

[WWW.NORTHIOWAFAIR.FUN](http://WWW.NORTHIOWAFAIR.FUN)

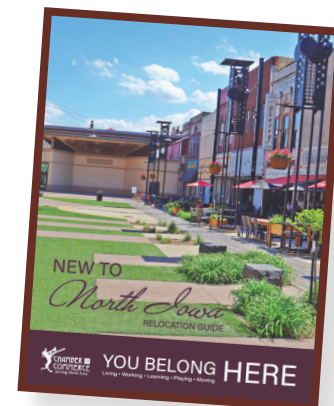


# New to North Iowa Relocation Guide

The Chamber is excited to offer a newly updated ***New to North Iowa Relocation Guide!*** This 84-page publication provides comprehensive relocation information about Mason City, Clear Lake, and Greater North Iowa. Copies are now available by request, and they are complimentary tools for all Chamber members to aid in workforce recruitment and retention.

The ***New to North Iowa Relocation Guide*** is just one more workforce recruitment tool the Chamber is proud to offer through the ***Community Concierge*** service. For those who haven't heard of it, the ***Community Concierge*** service helps to familiarize new or prospective residents with what North Iowa has to offer, assists with employment for a trailing spouse, connects people to quality rental housing, informs families about school or daycare options for their children, and much more.

Contact Allyson Krull at the Chamber ([akrull@masoncityia.com](mailto:akrull@masoncityia.com)) to learn more about the ***Community Concierge*** service or to request copies of the ***New to North Iowa Relocation Guide***.



## Spring Wellness Seminar - May 9

The ***Spring Wellness Seminar*** will feature an overview of nutrition today and how healthy food choices translate to overall wellness, presented by Jenn Pope from Roots Nutrition Counseling & More. This session, sponsored by CURRIES, is from 1-3PM on Thursday, May 9 at the Commerce Center.

Jenn Pope holds an undergraduate and Master of Science in Nutrition Diagnostics from Iowa State University. At this session, she will cover how to break down the basics of macronutrients – how to identify them in food sources, and how they interact in the body. Participants will learn about the most recent nutrition topics and how they apply to one's life and health goals.



**Jenn Pope**  
Roots Nutrition  
Counseling + More

## Building CommUNITY - Juneteenth

Save the date for June's ***Building CommUNITY*** Session from 1-2PM on Thursday, June 6 at the Commerce Center. This session will focus on the Juneteenth Celebration and how employers can honor and celebrate the holiday. Leading the session is Iowa Juneteenth General Chairperson Dwana Bradley.



**Dwana Bradley**  
Iowa Juneteenth  
General Chairperson

The event is free to attend. Registration and event details are available at [www.masoncityia.com](http://www.masoncityia.com).



**CURRIES**  
**ASSA ABLOY**

Event Sponsor

Registration is \$25/person online at [masoncityia.com](http://masoncityia.com) or by contacting Allyson Krull at the Chamber ([akrull@masoncityia.com](mailto:akrull@masoncityia.com)).



Left to right: Ashley Page, Caleb Renner, Elic Fjetland, Catherine Dow, Candi Karsjens, and Kelley O'Rourke

## NIACC Students Take Home Prizes at Venture Competition

NIACC student Catherine Dow was named one of the top three winners at The Pappajohn Student Entrepreneurial Venture Competition, sponsored by John Pappajohn, Equity Dynamics. Catherine was awarded one of three \$5,000 prizes for her business Instatat. Caleb Renner (Renner Ag Solutions) and Elic Fjetland (KulBox), also from NIACC, competed and won \$500 each as regional finalists.

## North Iowa Businesses Compete in Venture School Launch Day

The NIACC John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center hosted the University of Iowa Venture School Launch Day competition on April 11. The North Iowa Spring 2024 Venture School cohort competed in person after attending classes virtually for 7 weeks of training, customer discovery, and developing their business model alongside local entrepreneur coaches. The winners were: First Place \$1500 prize, Caleb Renner (Renner Ag Solutions, Klemme, IA); Second Place \$1000 prize, Sherri Stensrude (The PlayBarn, Joice, IA); Third Place \$500 prize, Sarah Innis, (Journey Wellness, Plymouth, IA). Learn more about Venture School at [www.pappajohncenter.com/ventureschool/](http://www.pappajohncenter.com/ventureschool/)



Sarah Innis, Sherri Stensrude, and Caleb Renner

## Youth Entrepreneurial Academy Applications Now Open

Applications for the Summer 2024 Youth Entrepreneurial Academy are due May 17. YEA is a unique opportunity for high school students to discover how their unique strengths, skills, and interests can be transformed into lifelong entrepreneurial skills. YEA is free, thanks to the support of the Hanson Foundation.

Apply at [www.pappajohncenter.com/yea/](http://www.pappajohncenter.com/yea/)

Contact: [kelley.orourke@niacc.edu](mailto:kelley.orourke@niacc.edu) | 641-422-4234.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 14 | CTA Compliance Seminar

MAY 28 | TechTalk



### NIACC Pappajohn Center & SBDC Staff

Candi Karsjens, DBA, Pappajohn Center Director

Brook Boehmler, North Iowa Area SBDC Director

Kelley O'Rourke, School Partnership Coordinator

Ashley Page, Director of Entrepreneurship Programs

Joyce Martin, Marketing & Community Relations Mgr.



# Welcome New Members!

## LAKE COUNTRY WINDOW CLEANING & ELITE HOME CARE

Todd Fisher, Owner  
Clear Lake, IA 50428  
(641) 529-7514  
lakecountrywindow@yahoo.com  
lakecountrywindow.wixsite.com

Locally owned & operated, they provide a wide array of services, from residential & commercial window washing, power washing, lawn care, landscaping, snow removal, residential home care, commercial business care, winter property checks, and everything in between.

## GYRO PLACE MASON CITY

Jesus Juarez, Owner  
1306 4th St SW  
Mason City, IA 50401  
(641) 530-8694  
gyroplacemc@gmail.com

A fantastic food truck located in the heart of Mason City with a diverse menu and incredible prices. Customers can experience the same great tastes with a location on Main St in Clear Lake.

## WEAVER CONSTRUCTION CO.

Chad Weaver, Owner  
532 Riverbend Ct  
Mason City, IA 50401  
(641) 420-8935  
chadweaver20@yahoo.com  
weaverconstructionco.us

New custom home builder, home additions, remodeling, concrete work, window & siding replacement.

## U.S. BANK - AMANDA KAUFMAN MORTGAGE

Amanda Kaufman,  
Mortgage officer  
Mason City, IA 50401  
(641) 430-9343  
Amanda.kaufman@usbank.com  
www.mortgage.usbank.com/  
ia-mason-city-amanda-kaufman

Located in Mason City, Amanda works with customers to help find the right mortgage for their unique situation.

## MIKE McCOY Community Supporter Mason City, IA 50401

## FERTILIZER EQUIPMENT SPECIALISTS

Carey Umbarger, Owner  
10510B 265th St  
Clear Lake, IA 50428  
(641) 243-7896  
carey@fes.net  
www.fes.net

FES is a family-owned business specializing in the sales of high quality new and used agricultural equipment.

## CARTERSVILLE ELEVATOR

Brent Weiner, Vice President  
21823 160th St  
Rockwell, IA 50489  
(641) 822-4550  
carselev@netconx.net

Family Owned and operated Grain Elevator in Rockwell, Nora Springs, and Mason City, Iowa since 1990. Transloading and Scale Services in Mason City. Bulk deliveries of gas and diesel.

## WELCOME HOME STAGING

Heather Davis, Owner  
Mason City, IA 50401  
(641) 494-6036  
Heather.  
welcomehomestaging@gmail.com

Welcome Home Staging & Interior Design enhances spaces for a warm welcome. From staging homes for sale to crafting inviting interiors, we transform spaces with flair and functionality.

## UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD

Emily Peters, Sales Manager  
Mason City, IA 50401  
800-272-8777  
www.up.com

One of America's most recognized companies, Union Pacific Railroad connects 23 states in the western two-thirds of the country by rail, providing a critical link in the global supply chain.

## Premier Members

Thank you to the Premier Members who went above and beyond in their support of the Chamber programs, events, and the North Iowa Band Festival in 2023-24! Contact Membership Director Jeremiah Frein to learn more about Premier Membership.

### GOLD \$6,000+

Cargill Protein • Clear Lake Bank & Trust Co. • CURRIES • First Citizens Bank •  
Holiday Inn Express and Suites - Mason City • Jane Fischer and Associates LLC • MercyOne North Iowa Medical Center

### SILVER \$3,000-\$5,999

Bergland + Cram Architects • Chevron Renewable Energy Group •  
POET Bioprocessing - Hanlontown • Smithfield • Wealth Progression Group

### BRONZE \$1,000-\$2,999

98.7 Kiss Country / 103.7 The Fox / KLOW 107.3 / KCHA 95.9 • CENT Credit Union • Century 21 Preferred •  
Edward-Brandt & Associates • Farmers State Bank • First Security Bank & Trust • Henkel Construction Co. •  
Midwest Construction & Supply • North Iowa Area Community College • Pritchard Companies • SERVPRO •  
Sukup Manufacturing Co.

2024 MASON CITY CHAMBER

# Golf Outing

## THURSDAY, JUNE 13

HIGHLAND PARK GOLF COURSE, 944 17TH ST NE, MASON CITY  
RAIN DATE: THURSDAY, JUNE 20

**Registration: 8AM**  
**Shotgun Start: 9AM**  
**Lunch: 11AM-1PM**



For more information about this event,  
visit our website at [www.masoncityia.com](http://www.masoncityia.com)  
or contact Colleen at [cfrein@masoncityia.com](mailto:cfrein@masoncityia.com)

Sponsored By:



## Register Today!

Description	Price	Qty	Total
Hole Sponsor (includes cart, 2 meal tickets)	\$350		
Four-Person Golf Team (includes fees, 2 carts, meal)	\$400		
Individual Golfer (includes green fee, cart, meal)	\$100		
Additional Cart	\$50		
Extra Meal Ticket	\$15		
<b>Total</b>			

**Payment Method**

Check     Invoice     Credit Card

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_

## Team Information

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Team Captain \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Team Captain Email \_\_\_\_\_

Team cancellation deadline for this event is Thursday, June 6.  
Cancellations after this date will forfeit the registration fee.

A rain date has been scheduled for Thursday, June 20.



# Membership Renewals

Congratulations to the Chamber members celebrating membership anniversaries in May!

## Seventy Plus Years

Huber Supply Co. (72)

## Sixty-Five Plus Years

Mason City Family YMCA (65)

## Fifty-Five Plus Years

Hy-Vee West (59)

## Fifty Plus Years

Target (52)

## Forty-Five Plus Years

Drs. Otto & Kotecki Family Dentistry (49)

Consolidated Energy Company (47)  
United Beverage LLC (47)

## Thirty-Five Plus Years

Harley Davidson of Mason City (37)  
Express Employment Professionals (36)

Kraft Heinz (36)

## Thirty Plus Years

Waste Management of Northern Iowa (34)

Electronic Engineering Company (33)

First Baptist Church (33)

Midwest Construction & Supply (33)

Central Park Dentistry (31)

IOOF Home & Community Therapy Center (31)

La'James College of Hairstyling (31)

## Twenty-Five Plus Years

Country Club Stables (28)

Church & Dwight Co., Inc. (28)

Linahon Electric, Inc. (26)

Homestead Assisted Living (26)

## Twenty Plus Years

Kingland (24)

Cargill Protein (23)

Decker House Bed & Breakfast (22)

Schroeder Concrete (22)

State Farm Insurance - Kristy

Marquis (22)

Pizza Ranch (21)

Lady of the Lake (20)

Furniture/Mattress Outlet (20)

Fox Auction Company (20)

## Fifteen Plus Years

Pilgrim Place (18)

Cutting Edge Tree Services (18)

Clear Lake Bank & Trust Co. (17)

NISS Excavation & Rock Quarry (15)

## Ten Plus Years

Financial Architects (14)

Greater Iowa Youth for Christ (14)

Splash Multisport & Custom (13)

King Construction & Overhead

Door, Inc. (13)

Blanchard Tree Service (13)

T & R Custom Tops (13)

J & J Machining (12)

Window World of Mason City (12)

Country Landscapes, Inc (12)

Waldorf University (11)

River City Society for Historic

Preservation (11)

YohnCo (10)

## Five Plus Years

Active Family Chiropractic LLC (9)

DealerBuilt (9)

Cardinal Cleaning (8)

Best Impressions Photography (7)

Staples (6)

North Iowa Court Appointed Special

Advocate (CASA) (6)

Anthony Djuren Fotography (5)

It's Lit Fireworks, LLC (5)

## One Plus Years

Premier Sprayfoam & Coatings (4)

Barbers Premiere Carpet Cleaning

and Home Services (4)

Tommy's Express Car Wash (4)

Brian's One Stop Auto Shop (3)

Cor-Tech LLC (3)

Rebecca Gisel (2)

Mark Lemon (2)

Metronet Inc (2)

River City Dump Trailer Rentals (2)

Mason City Farmers Market (2)

Artistic Barber (1)

Mary Middleton Counseling (1)

## Ribbon Cuttings

## Groundbreaking



### NEW ADDITION ABSOLUTE WASTE REMOVAL

4005 7th Ave N, Clear Lake



### NEW MEMBER HOVLAND PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT

360 N Delaware Ave



### NEW MEMBER MAC MIDWEST AUTISM CENTERS

1020 Buddy Holly Pl, Clear Lake



### NEW OWNERSHIP POTTERY ON THE PLAZA

14 S Federal Ave



### GRAND OPENING THE RIVER PHASE II

100 4th St SW



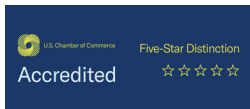
### GROUNDBREAKING PRAIRIE ROCK TRAILS

1631 4th St SW #107A



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(USPS 060-350)

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## Upcoming Events MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Professional Development



Networking Events



Get Involved / Committee Meetings



Wednesday <b>May 1</b>	<b>Leadership Workshop - Communicate to be Heard</b>   1-4PM Anderson Event Room, Commerce Center   9 N Federal Ave
Wednesday <b>May 8</b>	<b>Program Committee</b>   Noon-1PM Board Room, Commerce Center   9 N Federal Ave
Thursday <b>May 9</b>	<b>Spring Wellness Seminar - Eat Well, Work Well</b>   1-3PM Anderson Event Room, Commerce Center   9 N Federal Ave
Friday <b>May 10</b>	<b>North Iowa Band Festival Committee</b>   Noon-1PM Band Festival Room, Commerce Center   9 N Federal Ave
Monday <b>May 13</b>	<b>Workforce Committee</b>   1-2PM Board Room, Commerce Center   9 N Federal Ave
Thursday <b>May 16</b>	<b>Make it OK Walk</b>   11AM-1PM - Walk at Noon Principal Pavilion, Downtown Mason City
Wednesday <b>May 22</b>	<b>Chamber Board Meeting</b>   Noon-1PM Board Room, Commerce Center   9 N Federal Ave
Thursday-Monday <b>May 23-27</b>	<b>85th North Iowa Band Festival</b> Downtown Mason City Visit <a href="http://www.nibandfest.com">www.nibandfest.com</a> for a detailed schedule of events!

## June 2024

June 6 | **Building COMMUNITY Session - Juneteenth**

June 13 | **Chamber Golf Outing**

June 20 | **Business After Hours** hosted by Hogan Hansen, P.C.

This is a Mason City Chamber of Commerce Publication. Mason City, Iowa 50401 641.423.5724

Publications are monthly for \$20 per year by the Mason City Chamber of Commerce, 9 N Federal Ave, Mason City, IA 50401-3250. Second Class postage paid at Mason City, IA. Postmaster: send address changes to The Chamber, 9 N Federal Ave, Mason City, IA 50401-3250.



**4-6PM | Thursday  
May 16**

**Hosted By:**



**NSB Bank & JP Wealth Advisors**  
2650 4th St SW

Thank you to 98.7 KISS Country/103.7 The Fox for highlighting Business After Hours on its stations!

## Be Our Guest

Hosted by **Joe Malone**

Tune in Friday mornings to the Chamber "Be Our Guest" program at 8:40AM on KRIB 1490 AM, courtesy of Alpha Media.

**May 3** **A Tattoo Shop**  
Kassandra Morales

**May 10** **Gyro Place**  
Jesus Juarez

**May 17** **American Solutions for Business**  
Carrie Tysdahl

**May 24** **U.S. Bank - Amanda Kaufman Mortgage**  
Amanda Kaufman

**May 31** **MacNider Art Museum**  
Edith Blanchard